

REMARKS

Amendments to the Claims:

By this Amendment, claims 18 and 24-35 have been cancelled (responsive to the election of species requirement) without prejudice to pursue them in a continuation/divisional application. Claim 12 has been amended to correct a typographical error (namely replacing “chord” with “cord”). New claims 36- 50 have also been added. Claims 6, 8, 12, 20-23, and 36-48 are now pending in the application.

A minor amendment has been made to the specification to correct a typographical error.

The amendments to the claims and specification are supported throughout the application as originally filed. No new material is added by this Amendment.

Response to Species Election:

In the Office Action, the Examiner requested that Applicant elect from various species for prosecution on the merits to which claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Applicant hereby provisionally elects Species 4, corresponding to the embodiment depicted in Figure 1D2.

Pending independent claims 12, 36, and 44 are readable on the elected species, as are claims 6, 8, 37-43, and 45-48 which depend therefrom.

Fees Due to File This Amendment:

With the aforementioned claim additions and cancellations, there are now 3 independent claims and 20 total claims pending in the application, and thus **no additional fees are believed due** (other than the previously-cited two-month extension fee) to file this Amendment.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

If for any reason direct communication with Applicants' attorney would serve to advance prosecution of this case to finality, the Examiner is cordially urged to call the undersigned attorney at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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